(c) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects. However, the Government of India has from time to time been advising the State Governments to take such measures as are necessary for the prevention of crimes against all vulnerable sections of society including children. With a view to deal with the menace of organised crimes effectively, all State Government/Union Territory Administration have been advised to set up Organised Crime Units (OCUs) to be headed by a senior Police Officer.

Loss of textile exports

*119. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India which was in the forefront in textile exports has largely lost its textile exports in the world market; and

(b) whether Government have gone into the causes for such loss of textile exports and evolve a new policy and strategy to regain its lost position in the world market and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) As per World Trade Organisation (WTO) data, India's percentage share in the global textiles and clothing trade has increased from 3.58% in 1995 to 4.03% in 2003.

(b) There have been certain inhibiting factors in realising a greater share of the world trade, such as, quota restrictions imposed by major importing countries (USA, EU member states and Canada); preferential trading arrangements entered into by some countries; and the increased competition from countries like China, Bangladesh, etc. However, quota restrictions imposed by USA, EU Member states and Canada would end *w.e.f.* 1.1.2005, opening up fresh opportunities to India textile industry.

To prepare domestic textile industry for meeting the growing global competition, the following important announcements have been made in the Union Budget 2004-05:

* Except for mandatory excise duty on polyester filament yarn including texturised yarn, synthetic and artificial fibres and synthetic and artificial filament yarns, the whole value addition chain including cotton textile and cotton clothing items have been given excise exemption option.

* Additional Excise Duty on Textiles & Textile Articles (AT&T) and Additional Excise Duty (Goods of Special Importance) Act have been abolished.

* Basic customs duty on various textile machinery and spare parts has been reduced to 5%.

Beside, Government has been taking a number of steps from time to time to provide an enabling environment for the Indian textile industry to meet the emerging global competition and to increase India's share in textiles and clothing. Some of the important initiatives taken are:

(i) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1.4.1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the sector.

(ii) To improve the productivity and quality of cotton Government has launched Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC). The mission comprises four mini-missions, which are being jointly implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Textiles. One of the important ingredients of the Mission is to cotton processing facilities by upgrading/modernizing the existing ginning and pressing facilities and setting up of new market yards/improvement of existing market yards.

(iii) The Government has launched a Centrally sponsored scheme titled "Apparel Park for Export Scheme" for imparting focused thrust for setting up of apparel manufacturing units of international standards at potential growth centres to give fillip to exports.

(iv) For upgrading infrastructure facilities at important textile centres, a scheme titled "Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme" (TCIDS) has been launched.

Setting up of Commissions to look into Centre-State relations

*120. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up two Commissions to look into Centre-State relations including issues like sharing of river water and to examine administrative reforms which were reviewed four decades ago;